

New on the MCPS Web

Superintendent's Virtual Operating Budget Presentation

Superintendent Jack R. Smith, staff, and community partners discussed the recommended operating budget proposal in a virtual community conversation on December 18. You can watch the presentation online at www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/budget/fy2020/fy2020-operating-budget-presentation.aspx. You can also watch a cablecast on Comcast 34, Verizon 36, and RCN 89—Mondays and Fridays at 6:00 p.m.; Tuesdays and Thursdays at 11:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m.; and Saturdays and Sundays at 9:00 p.m.

During the December 18 discussion, Superintendent Jack R. Smith, MCPS staff, and community partners answered questions on the budget and stressed the importance of its focus on student classrooms and schools, including the key bodies of work: improving programs; increasing access to strong academic and career opportunities; extending learning; providing language opportunities; focusing on physical, social, and psychological well-being; hiring and retaining an effective and diverse workforce; and strengthening operational excellence.

The timeline for the FY 2020 Operating Budget is as follows:

- January 9 and January 14, 2019: Board of Education holds operating budget hearings
- January 16, 2019: State releases budget
- January 17 and 24, 2019: Board of Education holds operating budget work sessions
- February 12, 2019: Board takes action on the recommended operating budget

Please visit www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/uploadedFiles/departments/budget/fy2020/fy2020-budgetguide.PDF to read the FY 2020 Operating Budget Guide. A blurb is provided below.

Winter 2019 Parent Academy Schedule

The MCPS Parent Academy offers parents, guardians, and community members the opportunity to attend workshops that provide information, resources, tools, and tips to support their children's success in school. The 2019 winter season of workshops has begun. A full list of courses is available on the Parent Academy website www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/parentacademy/. Registration is available [here](#). A blurb is provided below.

Other News

Mental Health and Wellness Forum to Be Held January 12

The second annual Mental Health and Wellness Forum will be held from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, January 12, at Earle B. Wood Middle School. The event, which is being hosted by MCPS and the Montgomery County Council of PTAs (MCCPTA), will discuss mental health challenges facing youth today and provide available resources within MCPS and the greater community.

There will be breakout sessions on teen depression; stress and anxiety; opioids; the LGBTQ experience; self-harm and self-soothing behaviors; BTheOne Campaign for Peer Support; building

a culture of trust: lessons from Northwood High School; and treating trauma across cultural diversity. A blurb is provided below.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Week of Service

MCPS is recognizing Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. with a week of service projects in our schools from January 22 to 25. All schools are encouraged to lead a service project at some point during that week. Schools may host a schoolwide or classwide service event, collaborate with the PTA to host a service event, or allow a school club or organization to lead this endeavor. Activities can range from book or coat drives, fundraising for a charity, or any service project of your school's choosing. For more information, schools can contact Mrs. Shella B. Cherry, coordinator, Student Leadership, Volunteers, and Student Service Learning, at 240-314-1039.

LEAAP Offering Scholarships to Graduating Seniors (High School Principals)

The League of Educators for Asian American Progress (LEAAP) is offering \$2,000 scholarships to graduating MCPS high school seniors. The deadline to apply is Friday, February 15.

Applicants must be graduating seniors who plan to major in education, are members of an Asian American club, and/or students who have earned Student Serving Learning (SSL) hours supporting Asian American organizations. See the attached application form for more information. Please share this information with your school community.

HBCU Fair Set for February 22

The Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) Fair will be held from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. on February 22 at the Universities at Shady Grove, Building 3, 9640 Gudelsky Drive in Rockville. All high school students and their parents/guardians are invited to participate. Representatives from dozens of colleges and universities will be present to talk to parents/guardians and students about their programs and several will conduct on-the-spot admissions interviews for high school seniors. More information is available at www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/familysupport/hbcu/. A blurb is provided below.

Upcoming County Education Budget Meetings

Staff, parents/guardians, and members of the community are invited to join Montgomery County Councilmember Craig Rice, Superintendent of Schools Jack R. Smith, and Montgomery College President DeRionne Pollard at upcoming Education Budget meetings scheduled for February and March. Attendees can find out how budget decisions are made, what the County is doing today to get ready for FY 2020 and beyond, and the opportunities residents have to influence budget decisions.

The meetings will take place from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the following locations:

February 20, Neelsville Middle School, 11700 Neelsville Church Road in Germantown

February 27, Col. E. Brooke Lee Middle School, 11800 Monticello Avenue in Silver Spring

March 6, Rockville High School, 2100 Baltimore Road in Rockville

March 11, Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School, 4301 East-West Highway in Bethesda

March 27, Montgomery College Takoma Park Campus, 7600 Takoma Avenue in Takoma Park (Cultural Arts Center Theater 1)

The county executive will announce his Recommended FY 2019 Operating Budget in March. In April, the County Council will hold public hearings and approve the operating budget at the end of May.

Nominees Sought for Annual Distinguished Service to Public Education Awards

The Montgomery County Board of Education is seeking nominations from the public for its 22nd Annual Awards for Distinguished Service to Public Education. The awards are sponsored by the Board to recognize and show appreciation to individuals (including students), groups, and organizations that have made exemplary contributions to public education in Montgomery County. Visit www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/boe/community/awards/ for more information.

Completed nomination forms must be received in the Board of Education office by 5:00 p.m. on March 1, 2019. A blurb is provided below.

Don't Be Distracted Contest Open to Elementary and Secondary Students

The Montgomery County Department of Transportation is inviting all MCPS students help raise awareness of the dangers of distracted walking and driving by participating in the 2019 Don't Be Distracted Contest.

Students are asked to create a 30- to 60-second public service announcement (PSA) video or artwork about one or both of the following topics:

1. Tell your peers the importance of not walking or driving distracted.
2. Tell adults the importance of not being distracted while driving, especially in school zones.

All entries are due Monday, March 4. More information is available at:

www.montgomerycountymd.gov/DOT-PedSafety/SRTS/creative-contest.html. A blurb is provided below.

MCPS TV

MCPS Moments

- [Student Leaders Meet with Board of Education, MCPS Administrators](#)

Esta Semana en MCPS

Esta Semana en MCPS is a brief update, in Spanish, on what is happening throughout the district. The shows are cablecast on MCPS TV and may be viewed at the following URLs:

- Spanish: www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLC2A7ADDEDF1F2A2E

Blurbs for school newsletters, websites, etc.

Fiscal Year 2020 Operating Budget Virtual Presentation

In case you missed it, you can still watch the superintendent's virtual community conversation on the Fiscal Year 2020 recommended operating budget online at www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/budget/.

During the December 18 discussion, Superintendent Jack R. Smith, MCPS staff, and community partners answered questions on the budget and stressed the importance of its focus on student classrooms and schools, including the key bodies of work: improving programs; increasing access to strong academic and career opportunities; extending learning; providing language opportunities; focusing on physical, social and psychological well-being; hiring and retaining an effective and diverse workforce; and strengthening operational excellence.

Now that Dr. Smith has presented his recommendation, the timeline for the FY 2020 Operating Budget is as follows:

- January 9 and January 14, 2019: Board of Education holds operating budget hearings
- January 16, 2019: State releases budget
- January 17 and 24, 2019: Board of Education holds operating budget work sessions
- February 12, 2019: Board takes action on the recommended operating budget

For more information, visit www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/budget/.

Presentación Virtual del Presupuesto Operativo para el Año Fiscal 2020

Por si se lo perdió, usted todavía puede ver en línea la conversación virtual del superintendente con la comunidad sobre el presupuesto operativo recomendado para el Año Fiscal 2020, ingresando a www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/budget/.

Durante la conversación del 18 de diciembre, el Superintendente Jack R. Smith, personal de MCPS y socios de la comunidad respondieron preguntas sobre el presupuesto y recalcaron la importancia de su concentración en los salones de clase de los estudiantes y en las escuelas, incluyendo principales cuerpos de trabajo: mejorar programas; aumentar el acceso a sólidas oportunidades académicas y profesionales, ampliar el aprendizaje; proveer oportunidades para idiomas; concentrarse en el bienestar físico, social y psicológico; contratar y conservar una fuerza laboral eficaz y diversa; y fortalecer la excelencia operativa.

Ahora que el Dr. Smith ha presentado su recomendación, la cronología del presupuesto operativo para el Año Fiscal 2020 es la siguiente:

- 9 y 14 de enero, 2019: el Consejo de Educación lleva a cabo audiencias sobre el presupuesto operativo
- 16 de enero, 2019: el estado publica el presupuesto

- 17 y 24 de enero, 2019: El Consejo de Educación lleva a cabo sesiones de trabajo sobre el presupuesto operativo
- 12 de febrero, 2019: el Consejo de Educación adopta medidas sobre el presupuesto operativo recomendado

Para más información, visite www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/budget/.

Winter 2019 Parent Academy Schedule

The MCPS Parent Academy offers parents/guardians and community members the opportunity to attend workshops that provide information, resources, tools, and tips to support their children's success in school. The 2019 winter season of workshops has begun. You won't want to miss sessions on mindfulness, college and career planning, English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) resources and much more.

Parent Academy workshops are free. Childcare and interpretation services are provided at all sessions. A full list of courses is available on the Parent Academy website www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/parentacademy/. Registration is available [here](#).

Calendario de Invierno 2019 de la Academia para Padres

La Academia para Padres de MCPS ofrece a los padres/guardianes y miembros de la comunidad la oportunidad de asistir a talleres que proveen información, recursos, herramientas y consejos para apoyar el éxito escolar de sus hijos. La temporada de talleres del invierno 2019 ha comenzado. Usted no querrá perderse las sesiones sobre consciencia plena, planificación universitaria y profesional, recursos de inglés para personas que hablan otros idiomas (English for Speakers of Other Languages–ESOL) y muchos temas más.

Los talleres de la Academia para Padres son gratuitos. En todas las reuniones se proveerá servicio de cuidado infantil e interpretación de idiomas. Una lista completa de los talleres está a disposición en el sitio web de la Academia para Padres www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/parentacademy/. Puede inscribirse [aquí](#).

Mental Health and Wellness Forum to Be Held January 12

The second annual Mental Health and Wellness Forum will be held from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, January 12, at Earle B. Wood Middle School. The event, which is being hosted by MCPS and the Montgomery County Council of PTAs (MCCPTA), will discuss mental health challenges facing youth today and provide available resources within MCPS and the greater community.

There will be breakout sessions on teen depression; stress and anxiety; opioids; the LGBTQ experience; self-harm and self-soothing behaviors; BTheOne Campaign for Peer Support; building a culture of trust: lessons from Northwood High School; and treating trauma across cultural diversity. Special features include Hidden in Plain Sight (designed to strengthen parents' detective skills; available for adults only); Narcan training (for adults only); free mental health first aid training from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; and resource tables. From 4:00 to 5:00 p.m., there will be a student talkback session moderated by Ananya Tadikonda, student member of the Board of Education.

Earle B. Wood Middle School is located at 14615 Bauer Drive in Rockville. You can register for the forum [here](#).

Foro de Salud Mental y Bienestar Se Celebrará el 12 de Abril

El segundo Foro de Salud Mental y Bienestar se llevará a cabo de 1:00 a 5:00 p.m., el sábado, 12 de enero, en Earle B. Wood Middle School. El evento, que será presentado por MCPS y por el Concejo de Asociaciones de Padres y Maestros del Condado de Montgomery (Montgomery County Council of PTAs–MCCPTA), tratará sobre las dificultades de salud mental que afronta la juventud hoy en día y proveerá recursos disponibles dentro de MCPS y en la comunidad en general.

Habrará sesiones en grupos separados que tratarán sobre depresión en los adolescentes, estrés y ansiedad; opioides; la experiencia LGBTQ; comportamientos de auto-lesión y auto-tranquilizantes; Campaña BTheOne para Apoyo entre Compañeros; construyendo una cultura de confianza: lecciones de Northwood High School; y cómo tratar el trauma teniendo en cuenta la diversidad cultural. Las características especiales incluyen Escondidos en Plena Vista (Hidden in Plain Sight) (diseñado para fortalecer las aptitudes detectivescas de los padres; disponible sólo para adultos); entrenamiento Narcan (sólo para adultos); capacitación gratuita de primeros auxilios para salud mental, de 8:30 a.m. a 5:00 p.m.; y mesas con recursos. De 4:00 a 5:00 p.m., habrá una sesión para respuesta de los estudiantes, con Ananya Tadikonda, miembro estudiantil del Consejo de Educación como moderadora.

Earle B. Wood MS, está ubicada en 14615 Bauer Drive, en Rockville. Usted puede inscribirse [aquí](#) para asistir al foro.

HBCU Fair Set for February 22

The Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) Fair will be held from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. on February 22 at the Universities at Shady Grove, Building 3, 9640 Gudelsky Drive in Rockville. All high school students and their parents/guardians are invited to participate. Dozens of colleges and universities will be present to talk to parents, guardians and students about their programs and several will conduct on-the-spot admissions interviews for high school seniors. You can register and [view more information at www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/familysupport/hbcu/](#).

Feria de HBCU Programada para el 22 de Febrero

La Feria de Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) tendrá lugar el 22 de febrero, en The Universities at Shady Grove, Building 3, 9640 Gudelsky Drive, en Rockville. Todos los estudiantes de las escuelas secundarias y sus padres/guardianes están invitados a participar. Docenas de colegios universitarios y universidades estarán presentes para hablar con los padres, guardianes y con los estudiantes acerca de sus programas y varios estarán haciendo entrevistas de admisión al instante para estudiantes del Grado 12. Usted puede inscribirse y ver más información ingresando a [www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/familysupport/hbcu/](#).

Upcoming County Education Budget Meetings

Parents/guardians and members of the community are invited to join Montgomery County Councilmember Craig Rice, Superintendent of Schools Jack R. Smith, and Montgomery College

President DeRionne Pollard at upcoming Education Budget meetings scheduled for February and March. Attendees can find out how budget decisions are made, what the County is doing today to get ready for FY 2020 and beyond, and the opportunities residents have to influence budget decisions.

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March 6, Rockville High School, 2100 Baltimore Road in Rockville

March 11, Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School, 4301 East-West Highway in Bethesda

March 27, Montgomery College Takoma Park Campus, 7600 Takoma Avenue in Takoma Park (Cultural Arts Center Theater 1)

The county executive will announce his Recommended FY 2019 Operating Budget in March. In April, the County Council will hold public hearings and approve the operating budget at the end of May.

Próximas Reuniones sobre el Presupuesto para la Educación

Los padres/guardianes y los miembros de la comunidad están invitados a acompañar al Concejal del Condado de Montgomery Craig Rice, al Superintendente de Escuelas Jack R. Smith y a la Presidenta de Montgomery College DeRionne Pollard durante próximas reuniones sobre el Presupuesto para la Educación programadas para febrero y marzo. Quienes asistan pueden informarse sobre cómo se toman las decisiones presupuestarias, lo que el condado está haciendo hoy para prepararse para el Año Fiscal 2020 y más adelante y las oportunidades que los residentes tienen para influenciar las decisiones presupuestarias.

Las reuniones tendrán lugar de 6:30 a 8:30 p.m., en los siguientes lugares:

20 de febrero, Neelsville Middle School, 11700 Neelsville Church Road, en Germantown

27 de febrero, Col. E. Brooke Lee Middle School, 11800 Monticello Avenue, en Silver Spring

6 de marzo, Rockville High School, 2100 Baltimore Road, en Rockville

11 de marzo, Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School, 4301 East-West Highway, en Bethesda

27 de marzo, Campus de Montgomery College en Takoma Park, 7600 Takoma Avenue, en Takoma Park—Centro de Artes Culturales, Teatro 1 (Cultural Arts Center Theater 1)

En marzo, el ejecutivo del condado anunciará su Presupuesto Operativo Recomendado para el Año Fiscal 2019. En abril, el Concejo del Condado llevará a cabo audiencias públicas, y a fines de mayo aprobará el presupuesto operativo.

Nominees Sought for Annual Distinguished Service to Public Education Awards

The Montgomery County Board of Education is seeking nominations from the public for its 22nd Annual Awards for Distinguished Service to Public Education. The awards are sponsored by the Board to recognize and show appreciation to individuals (including students), groups and organizations that have made exemplary contributions to public education in Montgomery County. Visit www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/boe/community/awards/ for more information. **Completed nomination forms must be received in the Board of Education office by 5:00 p.m. on March 1, 2019.**

Se Solicitan Nominaciones para los Premios Anuales por Servicio Ilustre a la Enseñanza Pública

El Consejo de Educación del Condado de Montgomery solicita nominaciones del público para sus Vigésimo Segundos Premios Anuales por Servicio Ilustre a la Educación Pública. Los premios son auspiciados por el Consejo de Educación para reconocer y agradecer las contribuciones ejemplares de individuos (incluyendo estudiantes), grupos y organizaciones a la educación pública en el Condado de Montgomery. Visite www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/boe/community/awards/ para más información. **Los formularios de nominación completados deben ser recibidos por la oficina del Consejo de Educación antes de las 5:00 p.m., del 1ro. de marzo, 2019.**

Don't Be Distracted Contest Open to Elementary and Secondary Students

A Safe Kids study demonstrated that one in four high school students and one in six middle school students walk distracted. These distractions were most often texting or wearing headphones. Research also indicates that for teen drivers, a single glance off the road for two or more seconds increases the risk of a crash or near crash by almost four times. When students are distracted while walking or driving, they are putting themselves and others in danger. The Montgomery County Department of Transportation is inviting all MCPS students to help raise awareness of this critical issue by participating in the 2019 Don't Be Distracted Contest.

Students are asked to create a 30- to 60-second public service announcement (PSA) video or artwork about one or both of the following topics:

1. Tell your peers the importance of not walking or driving distracted.
2. Tell adults the importance of not being distracted while driving, especially in school zones.

All entries are due Monday, March 4. For more information and to submit an entry, visit www.montgomerycountymd.gov/DOT-PedSafety/SRTS/creative-contest.html.

Concurso "No Te Distraigas" Abierto para Estudiantes de las Escuelas Elementales y Secundarias

Un estudio de Safe Kids (Niños Seguros) demostró que uno de cada cuatro estudiantes de escuela secundaria y uno de cada seis estudiantes de escuela de enseñanza media camina distraído/a. La

mayoría de las veces estas distracciones se debieron a estar distraídos con mensajes de texto o por el uso de auriculares. Las investigaciones también indican que entre los adolescentes que conducen vehículos, desviar una sola vez la vista del camino por dos o más segundos aumenta casi cuatro veces el riesgo de chocar o casi chocar. Cuando los estudiantes están distraídos cuando caminan o conducen un vehículo, se ponen en riesgo ellos mismos y ponen en riesgo a otros. El Departamento de Transportes del Condado de Montgomery (Montgomery County Department of Transportation) invita a que todos los estudiantes de MCPS ayuden a crear conciencia sobre este problema crítico participando en el Concurso "No Te Distraigas" 2019.

Se pide a los estudiantes que creen un video de anuncio de servicio público (public service announcement–PSA) de entre 30 y 60 segundos, o un trabajo de arte sobre uno o ambos de los siguientes temas:

1. Háblales a tus compañeros sobre la importancia de no estar distraídos al caminar o conducir un vehículo.
2. Háblales a los adultos sobre la importancia de no distraerse al conducir un vehículo, especialmente en zonas escolares.

El plazo límite para todas las inscripciones para el concurso es el lunes, 4 de marzo. Para más información y para inscribirse en el curso, visite: www.montgomerycountymd.gov/DOT-PedSafety/SRTS/creative-contest.html.